

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 12, 16-21, and 23-25 are pending in the application. In the Office Action dated June 9, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 12, 16-21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5, 901, 284 ("Hamdy-Swink"). In this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 12, and 16 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

I. Hamdy-Swink Does Not Render the Current Independent Claims Unpatentable

Independent claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 12, and 16 were rejected as being anticipated by Hamdy-Swink. Each of the independent claims recite that an authentication key is received *from a database*. Hamdy-Swink fails to disclose at least this limitation of the independent claims.

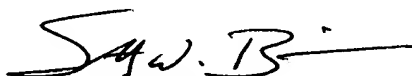
Hamdy-Swink is directed to a network-based telecommunications system and method that restricts the dial-in access to a resource of a subscriber to only a communication from an authorized user of the resource. In the relevant portion of Hamdy-Swink, the system obtains a passcode (an authentication key) *from the calling party*. (Abstract; Col. 23, lines 36-37). A token such as a SecurID token may generate a passcode and the *calling party* provides the passcode in order to gain access to a restricted service. (Col. 23; lines 36-41). In contrast, the currently-claimed invention recites that the authentication key is received *from a database*. The calling party in the currently-claimed does not provide any authentication key whatsoever.

Due to the fact Chen fails to disclose at least receiving an authentication key *from a database*, Hamdy-Swink necessarily cannot render independent claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 12, and 16, or any claim that depends on claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 12, and 16 unpatentable. Applicant respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-9, 12, 16-21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hamdy-Swink.

II. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested. If there are any questions concerning this Response, the Examiner is asked to phone the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4200.

Respectfully submitted,



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